

Serial No.: 10/652,621
Docket No.: 101-1003
Amendment dated January 5, 2006
Reply to the Office Action of October 6, 2005

REMARKS

Introduction

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 7, 8, and 14-17 are allowed, and that claims 3-6, 10, and 11 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Applicant also notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that each of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statements of December 30, 2003 and September 2, 2003 have been considered.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-9, 11, 14-17, and 19-23 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 6, 9, 11, 19, and 20 have been amended. Claims 10, 12, 13, and 18 have been cancelled. New claims 21-23 have been added. No new matter is being presented. In view of the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of all the pending claims are requested.

Rejection under 35 USC §102

Claims 1-2, 9, 12-13, and 18-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,425,650 to Walker et al. Applicant requests reconsideration of these claims for at least the following reasons.

Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 9, and has cancelled claims 12, 13, and 18 in order to help expedite prosecution thereof. In particular, Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to recite certain features previously recited in claim 6, which the Examiner indicated as allowable at page 5 of the Office Action of October 6, 2005. Additionally, Applicant has amended independent claim 9 to recite the features previously recited in claim 10, which the Examiner also indicated as allowable in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that, independent claims 1 and 9, as presently recited, are patentable over Walker et al., and withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of these claims are earnestly solicited.

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New Claims 21-23

Claims 21-23 have been newly added. New claim 21 recites similar features as those recited in independent claims 1, 7-9, and 14, which as pointed out above, are not taught in the prior art of record, such as, for example, "determining whether a sheet type of the current printing sheet has been registered in the specified printer by determining whether the feature value that corresponds to the current printing sheet is stored in a registration storage unit of the specified printer" and "retrieving print control data to print to the current printing sheet from the registration storage unit when it is determined that the sheet type thereof has been registered in the specified printer, and retrieving print control data to print the current printing sheet from a general printing sheet identification storage when it is determined that the sheet type thereof has not been registered in the specified printer." New claim 22 also recites similar features including, for example, "a registration storage unit to register the one or more unregistered printing sheet types and to store the associated one or more unique feature values therein" and "a controller to having access to both the registration storage unit and a pre-stored identification table..." New claim 23 recites similar features as new claim 22, for example, "a second executable code to control a registration storage unit to register the one or more unregistered printing sheet types with one or more associated unique feature values" and "a third executable code to access at least one of the registration storage unit and a pre-stored identification table..." Applicant respectfully submits that support for newly added claims 21-23 can be found in paragraphs [0024], [0028], [0036], [0040], and [0042], and [0043], and the corresponding figures. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that new claims 21-23 do not present new matter, and are allowable over the prior art of record, and allowance of these claims is earnestly solicited.

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Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, there being no other objections or rejections, this application is in condition for allowance, and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.


If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 502827.

Respectfully submitted,

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